

BAY AREA COUNCIL

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Bay Area Council

■ Founded in 1945, the Bay Area Council is a business-sponsored organization that acts on public policy issues affecting the economy and quality of life in the Bay Area. The Council also co-sponsors the Bay Area Economic Forum.

June 15, 1998

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

Attn: Rick Breitenback

Re: Comments on the CALFED Bay-Delta Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

The Bay Area Council is a business-sponsored public policy organization established in 1945 to promote economic prosperity and quality of life in the region. Over the years we have been very involved in water policy issues. We are writing now to express our continued support for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and to comment on the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

The Executive Committee of the Bay Area Council has adopted the following positions related to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program:

- Endorse the conceptual thrust and components in the Common Program.
- Commend CALFED and the Bay Delta Advisory Council for recognizing the importance of water marketing and voluntary transfers in the Common Program. An expanded voluntary water transfer market is essential to any successful long-term solution for the Bay-Delta Ecosystem and responsible management of California's water resources. Attached for the record is a letter from chief executives of major California employers regarding this subject.
- Support the continued evaluation of off-stream surface storage as a potentially vital component of an overall program to restore and protect the Bay-Delta Ecosystem and to responsibly manage California's water resources for sustained economic prosperity. Further, as part of the due diligence evaluation, urge CALFED to secure reasonably reliable commitments from prospective users and contractors to pay for that portion of the new off-stream storage not needed for the Bay-Delta Ecosystem.
- Urge CALFED to optimize efficient water uses by conditioning receipt of supplies from new off-stream reservoirs to reasonable requirements for conservation, reclamation (water recycling), and other appropriate measures by the recipient of the new supplies.
- Reaffirm the need to reduce impacts on the Bay-Delta Ecosystem by improving the conveyance facility. Further, urge CALFED to seriously consider first implementing through-Delta transfer improvements and evaluating over a reasonable period of time their effectiveness in improving Ecosystem performance and water quality before constructing an isolated transfer facility.

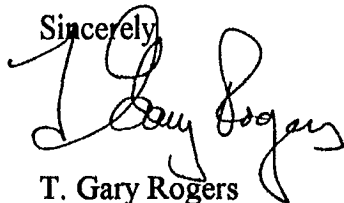
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Economic prosperity in California and the Bay Area will be threatened if there is not resolution of the CALFED Bay-Delta issues in the near future. It is imperative that elected officials, federal and state agencies, and stakeholders reach agreement this year on the components of a preferred alternative comprehensive solution. We pledge our commitment to see the process through to conclusion and urge all participants to reach agreement on a solution as soon as possible: time is of the essence.

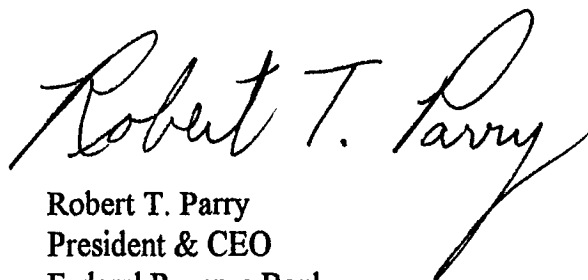
Continued prosperity in California depends upon an adequate, reliable supply of water for both the economy and the environment. The CALFED Bay-Delta process is best last chance in this century for achieving that goal. Thus, it is in this spirit of reaching resolution of the CALFED Bay-Delta issues sooner rather than later that we offer these comments on the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

Thank you for consideration of our positions and recommendations.

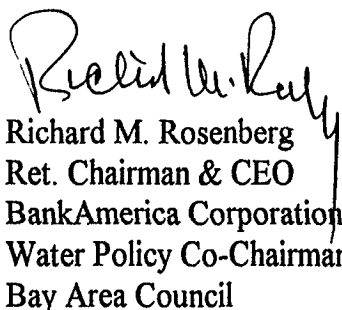
Sincerely,



T. Gary Rogers
Chairman & CEO
Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Inc.
Chairman
Bay Area Council



Robert T. Parry
President & CEO
Federal Reserve Bank
of San Francisco
Water Policy Co-Chairman
Bay Area Council



Richard M. Rosenberg
Ret. Chairman & CEO
BankAmerica Corporation
Water Policy Co-Chairman
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c: President Clinton
Governor Wilson
U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Babbitt
U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator Perciasepe
U.S. EPA Regional Administrator Marcus
California Secretary for Resources Wheeler
CALFED Bay-Delta Program Executive Director Snow